REMARKS

By this Preliminary Amendment, claims 4 & 7 have been amended to delete the multiple dependencies.

No new matter has been introduced. Entry and consideration of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Rainer HERGEMÖLLER 1

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Enclosure: Attachment A

"EXPRESS MAIL" NO. <u>EV 473 397062</u> 'US Date of Deposit: May 19, 2004

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10, on the date indicated above, and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, U.S. PTO, Mail Stop PATENT Application, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Maria Guastella